

MEMORANDUM

Indiana Election Commission Meeting, August 14th

- Joined by Indiana Election Division Staff along with co-directors.
- Meeting was properly recognized under the **Open Door Law**.
- The **Open Door Law**, also known as **Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-1**, states that government agencies must hold official meetings of a majority of their governing body, such as council or board meetings, publicly. As a citizen, you have the right to attend and record these meetings.

Campaign Finances

- Ratification of campaign finance settlement agreements presented to commission for approval - "...waive the hearing, pay the total amount of the proposed penalty without making an admission of violation..." (**MOTION WAS ADOPTED**)

Updated Voting Systems

- Proposal of motion to approve the recommended modifications to the EMS v4.4 Voting System. (**MOTION WAS ADOPTED**)

Election Updates

- The election division is now directed NOT TO include Mr. Mans on the certified list of general election candidates sent to the County Election Boards and it will be indicated that any write-in votes for this candidate will not be counted.

Expanding Absentee Voting Eligibility

- "I think it's worth mentioning...that we are currently involved in multiple lawsuits in the federal courts... As members of the commission, we are name-defendants in these lawsuits (and) at least one of which has been pending since April. These lawsuits address vote-by-mail in the November 3rd general election... you can request extended polling hours..."
 - **Common cause v. Lawson** (status pending as of August 24th, see [here](#))
 - "If Indiana implements its state voter purge law, it will unlawfully disenfranchise voters and disproportionately harm the political voice of communities of color. Indiana chose to purge voters based on unreliable data from the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck Program... The problem is that the...program does not reliably identify voters who have moved out of state and Indiana intends to strip away legally required notice-and-waiting period safeguards when purging voters flagged by Crosscheck."
 - **Tully v. Okeson** (status pending as of August 28th, see [here](#))
- The Indiana Election Commission voted against expanding absentee eligibility for the November Election. COVID is not a valid excuse, and failed to pass 2-2
- Marion County has been the only county allowed to use automated letter-opening machines for absentee ballots. Motion to go through with implementing more machines in Indiana is currently being argued.
- Most Hoosiers will be required to vote in person because (fear of) the prevalent pandemic is not a "valid excuse" to vote absentee by mail. You have to have a disability, be over the age of 65, or be at work during polling hours to vote by mail.

Poll Workers

- Large stockpiles of PPE equipment will be obtained for poll workers & voters and available for all 28 days of early voting.